

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 2

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claim ~~24~~ 29 in which the retention factor is at least 0.8.

26. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claim 29 in which the particles carry at least 30% by weight of biocide solution.

27. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claim ~~24~~ 29 in which the particles have an activated micropore system.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Previously presented) A particulate composition of matter comprising a liquid dispersible mass of porous inorganic carrier particles which is at least one of amorphous silicas, amorphous aluminas, pseudoboehmites, Y-zeolites, dealuminated Y-zeolites or mixtures of two or more thereof and biocide releasably adsorbed within the pore system thereof, said particles having a retention factor R, determined from the equation  $R = A/P$ , where A represents the percentage active ingredient by weight remaining in the pore system after contacting a sample consisting of a homogenised mixture of 0.75 g biocide and 2.25 g of carrier particles with 1000 ml of water for 90 minutes and P represents the potency as defined by the Minimum Inhibition Concentration in mg of active ingredient per liter of the biocide determined with respect to the reference microorganism *Aureobasidium pullulans*, of at least 0.6, and a BET surface area of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, wherein the biocide is at least one of 2-methyl-4-isothiazolone, 2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-propyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 3

methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, 2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, or 4,5-dichloro-2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one.

30. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in claim 29 in which the particles have a BET surface area of at least 300 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

31. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claim ~~24~~ 29 in which the particles have a biocide adsorption capacity of at least 10% by weight.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Currently amended) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim ~~24~~ 29, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition or a drilling mud.

34. (Cancelled).

35. (Previously presented) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim 26, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition and a drilling mud.

36. (Currently amended) A surface coating formulation as claimed in claim ~~34~~ 29 in the form of a water-based or organic solvent-based paint.

37-47. (Cancelled).

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 4

48. (Previously presented) A particulate composition of matter comprising a liquid dispersible mass of porous inorganic carrier particles which are Y-zeolites with, optionally, amorphous silicas, dealuminated Y-zeolites, or mixtures of two or more of these and biocide releasably adsorbed within the pore system thereof, said particles having a retention factor R, determined from the equation  $R = A/P$ , where A represents the percentage active ingredient by weight remaining in the pore system after contacting a sample consisting of a homogenised mixture of 0.75 g biocide and 2.25 g of carrier particles with 1000 ml of water for 90 minutes and P represents the potency as defined by the Minimum Inhibition Concentration in mg of active ingredient per liter of the biocide determined with respect to the reference microorganism *Aureobasidium pullulans*, of at least 0.6, and a BET surface area of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, wherein the biocide is at least one of 2-methyl-4-isothiazolone, 2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-propyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, 2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, or 4,5-dichloro-2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one.

49. (Previously presented) A particulate composition of matter comprising a liquid dispersible mass of porous inorganic carrier particles which are dealuminated Y-zeolites with, optionally, amorphous silicas, Y-zeolites, or mixtures of two or more of these and biocide releasably adsorbed within the pore system thereof, said particles having a retention factor R, determined from the equation  $R = A/P$ , where A represents the percentage active ingredient by weight remaining in the pore system after contacting a sample consisting of a homogenised mixture of 0.75 g biocide and 2.25 g of carrier particles with 1000 ml of water for 90 minutes and P represents the potency as defined by the Minimum Inhibition Concentration in mg of active ingredient per liter of the biocide determined with respect to the reference microorganism *Aureobasidium pullulans*, of at least 0.6, and a BET surface area of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>/g, wherein the biocide is at least one of 2-methyl-4-isothiazolone, 2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-propyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 5

2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, 2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, or 4,5-dichloro-2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one.

50. (Cancelled).

51. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in Claim 50 29 in which the particles have:

a weight mean particle size less than 50 microns.

52. (Previously presented) A particulate composition of matter useful as a vehicle for introducing biocide into a liquid-based medium comprising a liquid- dispersible mass of inorganic carrier particles comprising Y zeolite particles having biocide adsorbed within the pore system thereof for release of biocide into the liquid medium, said amorphous Y zeolite particles having a retention factor R, determined from the equation  $R = A/P$ , where A represents the percentage active ingredient by weight remaining in the pore system after contacting a sample consisting of a homogenised mixture of 0.75 g biocide and 2.25 g of carrier particles with 1000 ml of water for 90 minutes and P represents the potency as defined by the Minimum Inhibition Concentration in mg of active ingredient per liter of the biocide determined with respect to the reference microorganism *Aureobasidium pullulans*, of at least 0.6, and wherein the biocide is at least one of 2-methyl-4-isothiazolone, 2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-propyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-chloro-2-butyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-bromo-2-ethyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 5-iodo-2-amyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, 1,2-benzisothiazolin-3-one, 2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one, or 4,5-dichloro-2-n-octyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one.

53. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 52 in which the Y zeolite is a dealuminated Y zeolite.

54. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 52 in which the Si:Al ratio of the Y zeolite is at least about 5:1.

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 6

55. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 52 in which the Si:Al ratio of the Y zeolite is in the range from about 5:1 to about 33:1.

56. (Previously presented) A particulate composition of matter useful as a vehicle for introducing biocide into a liquid-based medium comprising a liquid-dispersible mass of inorganic carrier particles having a pore size range including the range from about 20 to about 50 Angstroms; and a pore area of at least 25 m<sup>2</sup>/g in the pore size range from about 20 to about 50 Angstroms and comprising Y zeolite particles having biocide adsorbed within the pore system thereof for release of biocide into the liquid medium, said amorphous Y zeolite particles having a retention factor R, determined from the equation  $R = A/P$ , where A represents the percentage active ingredient by weight remaining in the pore system after contacting a sample consisting of a homogenised mixture of 0.75 g biocide and 2.25 g of carrier particles with 1000 ml of water for 90 minutes and P represents the potency as defined by the Minimum Inhibition Concentration in mg of active ingredient per liter of the biocide determined with respect to the reference microorganism *Aureobasidium pullulans*, of at least 0.6.

57. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 52 in which the retention factor is at least 0.8.

58. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 52 in which the particles carry at least 30% by weight of biocide solution.

59. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 52 in which the particles have an activated micropore system.

60. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 52 in which the particles have a biocide adsorption capacity of at least 10% by weight.

Application No. 09/763,916  
Amendment dated October 4, 2004  
Page 7

61. (New) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim 52, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition or a drilling mud.

62. (New) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim 58, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition and a drilling mud.

63. (New) A surface coating formulation as claimed in claim 52 in the form of a water-based or organic solvent-based paint.

64. (New) A composition as claimed in Claim 52 in which the particles have a weight mean particle size less than 50 microns.

65. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 56 in which the retention factor is at least 0.8.

66. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 56 in which the particles carry at least 30% by weight of biocide solution.

67. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 56 in which the particles have an activated micropore system.

68. (New) A composition as claimed in claim 56 in which the particles have a biocide adsorption capacity of at least 10% by weight.

69. (New) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim 56, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface

Application No. 09/763,916  
*Amendment dated October 4, 2004*  
Page 8

cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition or a drilling mud.

70. (New) A liquid-based medium incorporating the particulate composition as claimed in claim 66, said liquid medium comprising a surface coating composition, a surface cleaning composition, a sealant composition, a tiling composition, a grouting composition and a drilling mud.

71. (New) A surface coating formulation as claimed in claim 56 in the form of a water-based or organic solvent-based paint.

72. (New) A composition as claimed in Claim 56 in which the particles have a weight mean particle size less than 50 microns.

73. (New) A composition as claimed in Claim 56 in which the Y zeolite is a dealuminated Y zeolite.

74. (New) A composition as claimed in Claim 56 in which the Si:Al ratio of the Y zeolite is at least about 5:1.

75. (New) A composition as claimed in Claim 56 in which the Si:Al ratio of the Y zeolite is in the range from about 5:1 to about 33:1.

76. (New) The composition of claim 29 wherein said particles have a pore area of at least 25 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

77. (New) The composition of claim 52 wherein said particles have a pore area of at least 25 m<sup>2</sup>/g.